Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended)A hearing instrument, comprising:

a housing, the housing comprising inside and outside surfaces and an opening for an electronics module ~~and an inside surface~~; and

an electronics module for insertion into the opening of the hearing instrument housing, comprising:

generally parallel planar upper and lower surfaces;

a peripheral surface, located between the upper and lower surfaces and oriented generally perpendicular thereto, the peripheral surface conforming to the opening in the housing;

a door and hinge; and

a tab in the vicinity of the hinge, the tab comprising a portion protruding outwardly from the module ~~with respect~~ and having an orientation generally perpendicular to the peripheral surface , and comprising an upper surface generally coplanar with the lower surface of the module.

2. (Currently Amended)A hearing instrument as set forth in claim 1, where

the inside surface of the hearing instrument housing is generally planar in the vicinity of the opening; and

~~the tab is located on the on the lower surface of the module and comprises an upper surface parallel to~~ the upper surface of the tab is generally coplanar with and adjacent the ~~inner~~ inside surface of the housing when the module is seated in the opening of the housing , such that the upper surface of the tab opposes the inside surface of the housing.

3. (Currently Amended)A module for insertion into an opening in a hearing instrument housing, where the housing comprises ~~an inside surface~~ inside and outside surfaces, comprising:

generally parallel planar upper and lower surfaces;

a peripheral surface, between the upper and lower surfaces and generally perpendicular thereto, the peripheral surface conforming to the opening in the housing;

a door and hinge; and

a tab in the vicinity of the hinge, the tab comprising a portion protruding outwardly from the module ~~with respect~~ and having an orientation generally perpendicular to the peripheral surface , and comprising an upper surface generally coplanar with the lower surface of the module.

4. (Currently Amended)A module as set forth in claim 3, where

the inside surface of the hearing instrument housing is generally planar in the vicinity of the opening; and

~~the tab is located on the lower surface of the module and comprises an upper surface parallel to~~ the upper surface of the tab is generally coplanar with and adjacent the ~~inner~~ inside surface of the housing when the module is seated in the opening of the housing , such that the upper surface of the tab opposes the inside surface of the housing.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended)A force-opposing tab for a hearing instrument module residing in an opening in a hearing instrument housing, where

the housing comprises an inside surface, and

the module comprises generally parallel planar upper and lower surfaces, a peripheral surface [[,]] between the upper and lower surfaces and generally perpendicular thereto, the peripheral surface conforming to the opening in the housing, and a door and hinge;

the tab comprising:

a member [[,]] in the vicinity of the hinge, the member comprising a portion protruding outwardly from the module ~~with respect~~ and having an orientation generally perpendicular to the peripheral surface , and comprising an upper surface generally coplanar with the lower surface of the module.

7. (Currently Amended)A force-opposing tab as set forth in claim 6, where

the inside surface of the hearing instrument housing is generally planar in the vicinity of the opening; and

the member is located on the lower surface of the module and comprises an upper surface ~~parallel to~~ generally coplanar with and adjacent the ~~inner~~ inside surface of the housing when the module is seated in the opening of the housing , such that the upper surface of the member opposes the inside surface of the housing.

8. (New) A hearing instrument as set forth in claim 1, where the module further comprises a flange contiguous with the upper surface of the module, where the flange rests on the outside surface of the housing when the module is seated in the opening of the housing.

9. (Currently Amended) A module as set forth in claim 3, further comprising a flange contiguous with the upper surface of the module, where the flange rests on the outside surface of the housing when the module is seated in the opening of the housing.